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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/954,544	09/12/2001	Henry R. Halperin	212/220	6993
23371	7590	12/20/2005		
CROCKETT & CROCKETT 24012 CALLE DE LA PLATA SUITE 400 LAGUNA HILLS, CA 92653			EXAMINER DEMILLE, DANTON D	
			ART UNIT 3764	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

TWS

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/954,544	HALPERIN, HENRY R.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Danton DeMille	3764

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2005.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-7, 19 and 22-29 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 2-7 and 22-29 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 and 19 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. **Claims 1 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gelfand et al. 5,769,800.**
2. Gelfand teaches a band 18, a driver mechanism 40 for contracting the band about the patient. It is viewed that when the bladder inflates it tightens the band about the patient. Contracting may also be defined as to draw into smaller compass (*The Random House College Dictionary*). The portion of the band that is in contact with the patient is drawn together against the chest of the patient into a smaller compass. The expanding fluid filled cushion would force the upper portion of the band upward thereby tightening and contracting the band about the chest of the patient. At least the portion that is in contact with the patient would be contracting to squeeze the chest of the patient. It would appear that at least a portion of the band is contracting about the chest of the patient and therefore comprehends the claim language.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Applicant's arguments filed 14 October 2005 regarding claims 2-7 and 22-29 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Claims 2-7, 22-29 are allowable over prior art to which the examiner is aware.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 19 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
5. Gelfand teaches a band 18 with a fluid-filled cushion extending over the sternum and is limited in the lateral extent to the anterior portion of the patient's thorax. As noted above it is

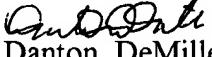
felt that the expanding fluid-filled cushion forces the upper portion of the band 15 upward and thereby drawing the lower portion tighter and constricting and contracting the remaining portion of the band around the chest of the patient. As broadly recited it would appear that Gelfand teaches the claimed invention.

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).
7. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Danton DeMille whose telephone number is (571) 272-4974. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 8:30 to 6:00. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Huson, can be reached on (571) 272-4887. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.
10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

15 December 2005


Danton DeMille
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3764